



RUSSELLS & SAWMILL PONDS

PLYMOUTH

**RUSSELLS & SAWMILL
PONDS**
Plymouth
Plymouth County
South Coastal Watershed

Latitude: 41.9745571 N Longitude: 70.6936328 W



4 acres each
Depth: 3 feet Average
7 feet Maximum
Primary Gamefish:
Trout

General Information:

Russells Pond is a small (4 acres), natural pond with an average depth of three feet and a maximum depth of only seven feet. It drains into Sawmill Pond (also known as Moning's or Stone Pond), another small pond (4 acres) immediately to the east. The shorelines of the pond are sparsely developed with a town conservation area located between the ponds. Both ponds get very weedy in the summer with Sawmill Pond often having a heavy algae bloom. The bottom is primarily muck with sand and gravel along the shoreline. These artificial ponds were formerly controlled by the Plymouth Cordage Company (located in the area now known as Cordage Park). The ponds are fed by springs and Sawmill Pond is fed by a small flow that originates near Route 3.

Access:

Russell and Sawmill Ponds are located in north Plymouth near the Kingston Line and the Cordage Parks area. The ponds can be reached from Route 3A, by taking Cherry Street. At the lights on Cherry Street next to the Hedges School, take a right and head northwest on Standish Avenue, and then take the first left (Bourne Street) after the Hedges School. The two ponds are separated by a causeway at the end of the road. Small canoes and boats can be launched at several places and there are several openings for shorefishing.

Management History:

Russells Pond was stocked with brook and rainbow trout between 1930 and 1938 and was reclaimed in 1953, 1958 and 1968. A June 28, 1952 survey found golden shiners, pumpkinseeds, bluegill, yellow perch and brown bullheads. It was reclaimed for trout management in September, 1953 and a few eels, killifish and brown trout were collected along with the species sampled the previous year. A total of 1,244 pounds were removed of which trout made up only 27 pounds. During the 1958 reclamation, brown bullhead, pumpkinseed, killifish and trout were collected as well as darters and two large eels. Brown bullheads, pumpkinseeds, darters, killifish and American eels were recovered in the 1968 reclamation. It was limed in 1974. These ponds have been annually stocked with trout by either the state and/or the town for many years.

Fish Populations:

A July 26, 1991 survey observed largemouth bass, chain pickerel and sunfish (probably both bluegill and pumpkinseeds). Golden shiners and American eel are also expected to occur in the pond. Both ponds are annually stocked in the spring with brook trout and rainbow trout.

Fishing:

Russell and Sawmills Ponds are heavily stocked in the spring with brook trout and also with rainbow trout. Both ponds, particularly Russell Pond, hold trout over the summer. These are good ponds to bring children fishing while adults can get the opportunity to catch some nice holdover brook trout. Nearby ponds include Hedges Pond (on the left on the way in), Little Pond and Lout Pond.

Updated: March 9, 2007 S.T.H.